

Jesse Smith Cobblestone Inn,  
Near Big Bend, Wisconsin. (3 miles S.W.)  
Waukesha Co.

HABS No. 28-16.

HABS  
WIS

67-BIGB.V

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Photographs  
Written Historical and Descriptive Data.  
District No. 28.

REDUCED COPIES OF MEASURED DRAWINGS

Historic American Buildings Survey.  
Alexander C. Guth, District Officer.  
1249 N. Franklin Place, Milwaukee, Wis.

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JESSE SMITH COBBLESTONE INN  
Near Big Bend, Waukesha County  
Wisconsin

Owner: Not given.

Date of Erection: Late 1840's.

Architect and Builder: No record.

Present Condition: Good.

Number of Stories: Two and attic.

Materials of Construction: Stone.

Other Existing Records: See text.

Additional Data: See following pages.

## JESSE SMITH COBBLESTONE INN

Jesse Smith Cobblestone Inn is situated on Waukesha County Trunk Highway A, about three miles southwest of Big Bend, Waukesha County, Wisconsin. It is three stories in height and has a setting which possesses much of the charm of the old New England inns.

Within is the tap room on one side of the main hall, with a women's parlor opposite. In the kitchen there is to be found an old oven which is of such size that sixteen pies can be baked in it at one time. The bed rooms are located on the Second Floor, while on the Third Floor is one of the real attractions of the building, a spring dance floor. This type of floor was popular with the early day dancers, and was quite a unique and rare feature in Wisconsin. The floor gives one the queerest of feelings when walking across the same.

The walls of the building are exceedingly thick. The window frames are placed out as far as possible. This makes for a deep jamb. The jambs are placed on the angle and beautifully panelled. They are a real attractive feature in the various rooms. Similar jambs occur throughout the house.

The interior of the house is most interesting with its array of cabinets, cupboards and fireplaces. Opening into the ballroom is a very interesting old doorway which contains a wicket. At one time this was used for the purpose

of getting the password from the members of the Good Templars organization which held its meetings in this ballroom during the Civil War period.

The exterior of the house, as the drawings and photographs indicate, is built up of small field stones which in most cases are very colorful and add a great deal to the charm of the building.

Situated on the premises are old barns, a smoke house, chicken coop and the like, all built of the same kind of stone work. All these add much interest and atmosphere to the place.

This structure dates from the late 1840's.

*Shamard C. Smith*  
District Officer.